

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 2-4, 6 and 7 are all the claims pending in the application. The rejections are respectfully submitted to be obviated in view of the amendments and remarks presented herein.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 2-4, 6 and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as allegedly lacking patentability utility. Applicant has amended independent claims 2 and 6. Applicant respectfully submits that the claimed invention, as recited by amended claims 2 and 6, has patentable utility.

As claims 3 and 4 depend from claim 2, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 3 and 4 are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency on claim 2. Similarly, as claim 7 depends from claim 6, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 7 is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 6.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U.S. Application No.: 10/803,982

Attorney Docket No.: Q80573

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Howard L. Bernstein
Registration No. 25,665

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE
23373
CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 20, 2006